

11-7-1994

Resolution of Amendment of Better Community Statement

The College at Brockport, College Senate

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Resolution # 4 1994-95

TO: President John E. Van de Wetering
FROM: The Faculty Senate Meeting on (Date) November 7, 1994
RE: I. Formal Resolution (Act of Determination)
II. Recommendation (Urging the fitness of)
III. Other (Notice, Request, Report, etc.)
For your information
SUBJECT: Resolution of amendment of Better Community Statement

Signed Roop M. Wetering Date Sent December 2, 1994
(For the Senate)

TO: The Faculty Senate
FROM: President John E. Van de Wetering
RE: I. Decision and Action Taken on Formal Resolution
a. Accepted Effective Date 12/15/94
b. Deferred for discussion with the Faculty Senate
on _____
c. Unacceptable for the reasons contained in the
attached explanation

II, III.
a. Received and acknowledged
b. Comment:

DISTRIBUTION: (see attached list)

Distribution Date 12/15/94 Signed: [Signature]
(President of the College)

Faculty Senate Resolution
submitted by the Environment Committee of the Faculty,
October 24, 1994

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate approved on May 9, 1994 "The College at Brockport's *A BETTER COMMUNITY* Statement," and

WHEREAS, the Better Community Committee has since revised the Statement to include a clause addressing the issue of responsible and sensitive free speech, and

WHEREAS, the Environment Committee of the Faculty Senate on October 17, 1994 unanimously voted to accept said clause as an amendment to the approved Statement (along with a minor stylistic editorial change), therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of the State University of New York College at Brockport also accept the additional clause (along with a minor stylistic editorial change) as noted on the accompanying document as an amendment to The College at Brockport's *A BETTER COMMUNITY* Statement.

The College at Brockport's A BETTER COMMUNITY Statement.

As members of the State University of New York College at Brockport, we choose to be a part of an academic community that is dedicated to principles that foster integrity, civility and justice.

As citizens of a broad and pluralist society, we encourage those of all cultures, orientations and backgrounds to educate, understand and respect one another in a safe environment.

- ...We respect the dignity of all persons and assume the best about them.
- ...We challenge and reject all forms of bigotry while striving to learn from each other's differences.
- ...We celebrate our differences while appreciating our similarities.
- ...We value an inclusive environment that is accepting of each other's cultural, physical, cognitive, social and professional differences.
- ...We respect the rights of each and every member of the community, regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, medical condition, disability or socioeconomic status.
- ...We realize that our common interests exceed our individual differences.

As members of this College community, we strive for academic and personal excellence that will enable us to achieve lives of productive work, personal enrichment and useful citizenship in an increasingly interdependent world.

- ...We invite the exploration of new ideas that can stretch us beyond artificial barriers that are academic, political or social.
- ...We affirm that the well-being of our individual units, groups, organizations or disciplines cannot be separated from the overall College community.
- ...We, as members of smaller groups on campus, respect and affirm the transcendent values and principles of the overall College community.
- ...We uphold the right of each individual to pursue his or her intellectual, educational, professional and personal goals in a fair and encouraging environment.

As individuals who work, study or live in this College community, we affirm our rights to freedom of expression and association, and the belief that they must be exercised responsibly.

- ...We value the right to due process which includes concepts of fairness, notice, opportunity to be heard, and timely and objective review of determinations.
- ...We acknowledge that free speech, debate and discourse are necessary to achieve an examined life.
- ...We acknowledge that the essence of academic freedom is the free and open expression and exchange of ideas, even when controversial or unconventional.
- ...We affirm that the dignity of our Brockport community is protected when free speech, academic freedom and individual rights are expressed only with responsible and careful regard for the feelings and sensitivities of others.
- ~~We affirm that the spirit of building a better community is best served when~~
the ideals of integrity, civility and justice are expressed and debated with tolerance and good will.